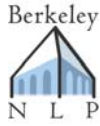


Natural Language Processing



Classification I
Dan Klein – UC Berkeley

Classification



Classification

- Automatically make a decision about inputs
 - Example: document → category
 - Example: image of digit → digit
 - Example: image of object → object type
 - Example: query + webpages → best match
 - Example: symptoms → diagnosis
 - ...
- Three main ideas
 - Representation as feature vectors / kernel functions
 - Scoring by linear functions
 - Learning by optimization



Some Definitions

INPUTS	x_i	close the ____
CANDIDATE SET	$\mathcal{Y}(x)$	{door, table, ...}
CANDIDATES	y	table
TRUE OUTPUTS	y_i^*	door
FEATURE VECTORS	$f(x, y)$	[0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0]

$x_i = \text{"the"} \wedge y = \text{"door"}$ $x_i = \text{"the"} \wedge y = \text{"table"}$
 "close" in $x \wedge y = \text{"door"}$ y occurs in x

Features



Feature Vectors

- Example: web page ranking (not actually classification)

$x_i = \text{"Apple Computers"}$

$f_i(\text{Apple}) = [0.3 \ 5 \ 0 \ 0 \ \dots]$



$f_i(\text{Apple Inc.}) = [0.8 \ 4 \ 2 \ 1 \ \dots]$



Block Feature Vectors

- Sometimes, we think of the input as having features, which are multiplied by outputs to form the candidates

x ... win the election ...

"f(x)"

"win" [1 0 1 0] "election"

...win the election ...
 $f(\text{SPORTS}) = [1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0]$
 ...win the election ...
 $f(\text{POLITICS}) = [0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0]$
 ...win the election ...
 $f(\text{OTHER}) = [0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0]$

Non-Block Feature Vectors

- Sometimes the features of candidates cannot be decomposed in this regular way
- Example: a parse tree's features may be the productions present in the tree

Parse trees for "win the election":

$f(\text{Tree 1}) = [1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1]$

$f(\text{Tree 2}) = [1 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0]$

- Different candidates will thus often share features
- We'll return to the non-block case later

Linear Models

Linear Models: Scoring

- In a linear model, each feature gets a weight w

$f(\text{POLITICS}) = [0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0]$
 $f(\text{SPORTS}) = [1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0]$
 $w = [1 \ 1 \ -1 \ -2 \ 1 \ -1 \ 1 \ -2 \ -2 \ -1 \ -1 \ 1]$

- We score hypotheses by multiplying features and weights:

$$\text{score}(y, w) = w^T f(y)$$

$f(\text{POLITICS}) = [0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0]$
 $w = [1 \ 1 \ -1 \ -2 \ 1 \ -1 \ 1 \ -2 \ -2 \ -1 \ -1 \ 1]$

$$\text{score}(\text{POLITICS}, w) = 1 \times 1 + 1 \times 1 = 2$$

Linear Models: Decision Rule

- The linear decision rule:

$$\text{prediction}(\dots \text{win the election } \dots, w) = \arg \max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}(x)} w^T f(y)$$

$\text{score}(\text{SPORTS}, w) = 1 \times 1 + (-1) \times 1 = 0$
 $\text{score}(\text{POLITICS}, w) = 1 \times 1 + 1 \times 1 = 2$
 $\text{score}(\text{OTHER}, w) = (-2) \times 1 + (-1) \times 1 = -3$

$\text{prediction}(\dots \text{win the election } \dots, w) = \text{POLITICS}$

- We've said nothing about where weights come from

Binary Classification

- Important special case: binary classification
- Classes are $y = +1/-1$

$f(x, -1) = -f(x, +1)$
 $f(x) = 2f(x, +1)$

- Decision boundary is a hyperplane

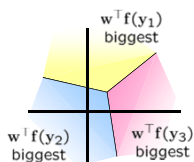
$$w^T f(x) = 0$$



Multiclass Decision Rule

If more than two classes:

- Highest score wins
- Boundaries are more complex
- Harder to visualize



$$\text{prediction}(x_i, \mathbf{w}) = \arg \max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{f}_i(y)$$

- There are other ways: e.g. reconcile pairwise decisions

Learning



Learning Classifier Weights

- Two broad approaches to learning weights
- Generative: work with a probabilistic model of the data, weights are (log) local conditional probabilities
 - Advantages: learning weights is easy, smoothing is well-understood, backed by understanding of modeling
- Discriminative: set weights based on some error-related criterion
 - Advantages: error-driven, often weights which are good for classification aren't the ones which best describe the data
- We'll mainly talk about the latter for now



How to pick weights?

- Goal: choose "best" vector \mathbf{w} given training data
 - For now, we mean "best for classification"
- The ideal: the weights which have greatest test set accuracy / F1 / whatever
 - But, don't have the test set
 - Must compute weights from training set
- Maybe we want weights which give best training set accuracy?
 - Hard discontinuous optimization problem
 - May not (does not) generalize to test set
 - Easy to overfit

Though, min-error training for MT does exactly this.



Minimize Training Error?

- A loss function declares how costly each mistake is

$$\ell_i(y) = \ell(y, y_i^*)$$

- E.g. 0 loss for correct label, 1 loss for wrong label
- Can weight mistakes differently (e.g. false positives worse than false negatives or Hamming distance over structured labels)

- We could, in principle, minimize training loss:

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} \sum_i \ell_i \left(\arg \max_y \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{f}_i(y) \right)$$

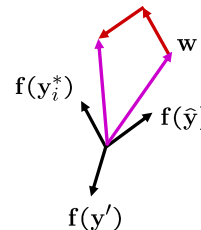
- This is a hard, discontinuous optimization problem



Linear Models: Perceptron

- The perceptron algorithm
 - Iteratively processes the training set, reacting to training errors
 - Can be thought of as trying to drive down training error
- The (online) perceptron algorithm:
 - Start with zero weights \mathbf{w}
 - Visit training instances one by one
 - Try to classify

$$\hat{y} = \arg \max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}(x)} \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{f}(y)$$
 - If correct, no change!
 - If wrong: adjust weights



Example: "Best" Web Page

$w = [1 \ 2 \ 0 \ 0 \ \dots]$
 $x_i = \text{"Apple Computers"}$
 $f_i(\text{Screenshot 1}) = [0.3 \ 5 \ 0 \ 0 \ \dots] \quad w^\top f = 10.3 \quad \hat{y}$
 $f_i(\text{Screenshot 2}) = [0.8 \ 4 \ 2 \ 1 \ \dots] \quad w^\top f = 8.8 \quad y_i^*$
 $w \leftarrow w + f(y_i^*) - f(\hat{y})$
 $w = [1.5 \ 1 \ 2 \ 1 \ \dots]$

Examples: Perceptron

- Separable Case

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Perceptrons and Separability

- A data set is separable if some parameters classify it perfectly
- Convergence: if training data separable, perceptron will separate (binary case)
- Mistake Bound: the maximum number of mistakes (binary case) related to the *margin* or degree of separability

Separable

Non-Separable

Examples: Perceptron

- Non-Separable Case

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Issues with Perceptrons

- Overtraining: test / held-out accuracy usually rises, then falls
 - Overtraining isn't the typically discussed source of overfitting, but it can be important
- Regularization: if the data isn't separable, weights often thrash around
 - Averaging weight vectors over time can help (averaged perceptron)
 - [Freund & Schapire 99, Collins 02]
- Mediocre generalization: finds a "barely" separating solution

Problems with Perceptrons

- Perceptron "goal": separate the training data

$$\forall i, \forall y \neq y^i \quad w^\top f_i(y^i) \geq w^\top f_i(y)$$
 - This may be an entire feasible space
 - Or it may be impossible

Margin

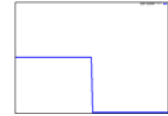


Objective Functions

- What do we want from our weights?

- Depends!
- So far: minimize (training) errors:

$$\sum_i \text{step} \left(\mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{f}_i(\mathbf{y}_i^*) - \max_{\mathbf{y} \neq \mathbf{y}_i^*} \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{f}_i(\mathbf{y}) \right)$$



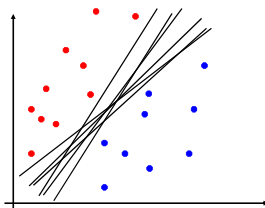
$$\mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{f}_i(\mathbf{y}_i^*) - \max_{\mathbf{y} \neq \mathbf{y}_i^*} \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{f}_i(\mathbf{y})$$

- This is the "zero-one loss"
 - Discontinuous, minimizing is NP-complete
 - Not really what we want anyway
- Maximum entropy and SVMs have other objectives related to zero-one loss



Linear Separators

- Which of these linear separators is optimal?

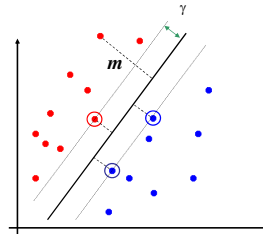


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Classification Margin (Binary)

- Distance of \mathbf{x}_i to separator is its margin, m_i
- Examples closest to the hyperplane are **support vectors**
- Margin γ of the separator is the minimum m



Classification Margin

- For each example \mathbf{x}_i and possible mistaken candidate \mathbf{y} , we avoid that mistake by a margin $m_i(\mathbf{y})$ (with zero-one loss)

$$m_i(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{f}_i(\mathbf{y}_i^*) - \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{f}_i(\mathbf{y})$$

- Margin γ of the entire separator is the minimum m

$$\gamma = \min_i \left(\mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{f}_i(\mathbf{y}_i^*) - \max_{\mathbf{y} \neq \mathbf{y}_i^*} \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{f}_i(\mathbf{y}) \right)$$

- It is also the largest γ for which the following constraints hold

$$\forall i, \forall \mathbf{y} \quad \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{f}_i(\mathbf{y}_i^*) \geq \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{f}_i(\mathbf{y}) + \gamma \ell_i(\mathbf{y})$$

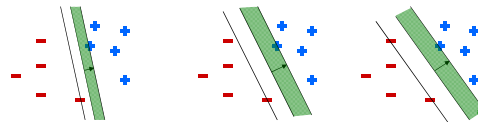


Maximum Margin

- Separable SVMs: find the max-margin w

$$\max_{\|\mathbf{w}\|=1} \gamma \quad \ell_i(\mathbf{y}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}_i^* \\ 1 & \text{if } \mathbf{y} \neq \mathbf{y}_i^* \end{cases}$$

$$\forall i, \forall \mathbf{y} \quad \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{f}_i(\mathbf{y}_i^*) \geq \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{f}_i(\mathbf{y}) + \gamma \ell_i(\mathbf{y})$$



- Can stick this into Matlab and (slowly) get an SVM
- Won't work (well) if non-separable

Why Max Margin?

- Why do this? Various arguments:
 - Solution depends only on the boundary cases, or *support vectors* (but remember how this diagram is broken!)
 - Solution robust to movement of support vectors
 - Sparse solutions (features not in support vectors get zero weight)
 - Generalization bound arguments
 - Works well in practice for many problems**

Support vectors

Max Margin / Small Norm

- Reformulation: find the smallest w which separates data

Remember this condition? $\xrightarrow{\max_{\|w\|=1} \gamma}$

$$\forall i, y \quad w^\top f_i(y_i^*) \geq w^\top f_i(y) + \gamma \ell_i(y)$$

- γ scales linearly in w , so if $\|w\|$ isn't constrained, we can take any separating w and scale up our margin

$$\gamma = \min_{i, y \neq y_i^*} [w^\top f_i(y_i^*) - w^\top f_i(y)] / \ell_i(y)$$

- Instead of fixing the scale of w , we can fix $\gamma = 1$

$$\min_w \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2$$

$$\forall i, y \quad w^\top f_i(y_i^*) \geq w^\top f_i(y) + 1 \ell_i(y)$$

Soft Margin Classification

- What if the training set is not linearly separable?
- Slack variables ξ_i can be added to allow misclassification of difficult or noisy examples, resulting in a *soft margin classifier*

Maximum Margin

Note: exist other choices of how to penalize slacks!

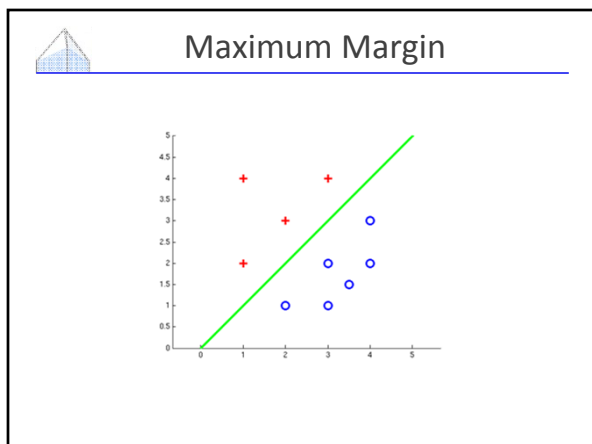
- Non-separable SVMs
 - Add slack to the constraints
 - Make objective pay (linearly) for slack:

$$\min_{w, \xi} \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + C \sum_i \xi_i$$

$$\forall i, y, \quad w^\top f_i(y_i^*) + \xi_i \geq w^\top f_i(y) + \ell_i(y)$$

- C is called the *capacity* of the SVM – the smoothing knob

- Learning:
 - Can still stick this into Matlab if you want
 - Constrained optimization is hard; better methods!
 - We'll come back to this later



Likelihood



Linear Models: Maximum Entropy

Maximum entropy (logistic regression)

- Use the scores as probabilities:

$$P(y|x, w) = \frac{\exp(w^T f(y))}{\sum_{y'} \exp(w^T f(y'))} \quad \leftarrow \text{Make Positive}$$

- Maximize the (log) conditional likelihood of training data

$$L(w) = \log \prod_i P(y_i^* | x_i, w) = \sum_i \log \left(\frac{\exp(w^T f_i(y_i^*))}{\sum_y \exp(w^T f_i(y))} \right)$$

$$= \sum_i \left(w^T f_i(y_i^*) - \log \sum_y \exp(w^T f_i(y)) \right)$$



Maximum Entropy II

Motivation for maximum entropy:

- Connection to maximum entropy principle (sort of)
- Might want to do a good job of being uncertain on noisy cases...
- ... in practice, though, posteriors are pretty peaked

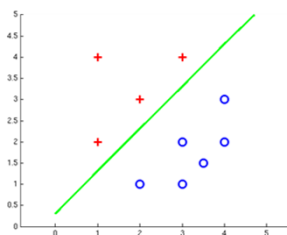
Regularization (smoothing)

$$\max_w \sum_i \left(w^T f_i(y_i^*) - \log \sum_y \exp(w^T f_i(y)) \right) - k \|w\|^2$$

$$\min_w k \|w\|^2 - \sum_i \left(w^T f_i(y_i^*) - \log \sum_y \exp(w^T f_i(y)) \right)$$



Maximum Entropy



Loss Comparison



Log-Loss

- If we view maxent as a minimization problem:

$$\min_w k \|w\|^2 + \sum_i \left(w^T f_i(y_i^*) - \log \sum_y \exp(w^T f_i(y)) \right)$$

- This minimizes the "log loss" on each example

$$-\left(w^T f_i(y_i^*) - \log \sum_y \exp(w^T f_i(y)) \right) = -\log P(y_i^* | x_i, w)$$

step $\left(w^T f_i(y_i^*) - \max_{y \neq y_i^*} w^T f_i(y) \right)$

- One view: log loss is an *upper bound* on zero-one loss



Remember SVMs...

- We had a **constrained** minimization

$$\min_{w, \xi} \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + C \sum_i \xi_i$$

$$\forall i, y, \quad w^T f_i(y_i^*) + \xi_i \geq w^T f_i(y) + \ell_i(y)$$

- ...but we can solve for ξ_i

$$\forall i, y, \quad \xi_i \geq w^T f_i(y) + \ell_i(y) - w^T f_i(y_i^*)$$

$$\forall i, \quad \xi_i = \max_y \left(w^T f_i(y) + \ell_i(y) - w^T f_i(y_i^*) \right)$$

- Giving

$$\min_w \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + C \sum_i \left(\max_y \left(w^T f_i(y) + \ell_i(y) - w^T f_i(y_i^*) \right) \right)$$

Hinge Loss

Plot really only right in binary case

- Consider the per-instance objective:

$$\min_w k\|w\|^2 + \sum_i (\max(w^\top f_i(y) + \epsilon_i(y)) - w^\top f_i(y_i^*))$$
- This is called the "hinge loss"
 - Unlike **maxent** / **log loss**, you stop gaining objective once the true label wins by enough
 - You can start from here and derive the SVM objective
 - Can solve directly with sub-gradient decent (e.g. Pegasos: Shalev-Shwartz et al 07)

$w^\top f_i(y_i^*) - \max_{y \neq y_i^*} (w^\top f_i(y))$

Max vs "Soft-Max" Margin

- SVMs:

$$\min_w k\|w\|^2 - \sum_i (\underbrace{w^\top f_i(y_i^*) - \max_{y \neq y_i^*} (w^\top f_i(y) + \epsilon_i(y))}_{\text{You can make this zero}})$$
- Maxent:

$$\min_w k\|w\|^2 - \sum_i (\underbrace{w^\top f_i(y_i^*) - \log \sum_y \exp(w^\top f_i(y))}_{\text{... but not this one}})$$
- Very similar! Both try to make the true score better than a function of the other scores
 - The SVM tries to beat the augmented runner-up
 - The Maxent classifier tries to beat the "soft-max"

Loss Functions: Comparison

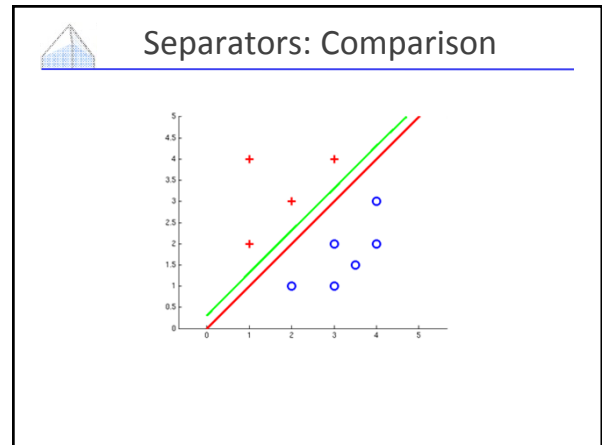
- Zero-One Loss

$$\sum_i \text{step}(w^\top f_i(y_i^*) - \max_{y \neq y_i^*} w^\top f_i(y))$$
- Hinge

$$\sum_i (w^\top f_i(y_i^*) - \max_{y \neq y_i^*} (w^\top f_i(y) + \epsilon_i(y)))$$
- Log

$$\sum_i (w^\top f_i(y_i^*) - \log \sum_y \exp(w^\top f_i(y)))$$

$w^\top f_i(y_i^*) - \max_{y \neq y_i^*} (w^\top f_i(y))$



Conditional vs Joint Likelihood

Example: Sensors

Raining

Sunny

$P(+, +, r) = 3/8$ $P(-, -, r) = 1/8$ $P(+, +, s) = 1/8$ $P(-, -, s) = 3/8$

NB Model

NB FACTORS:

- $P(s) = 1/2$
- $P(+|s) = 1/4$
- $P(+|r) = 3/4$

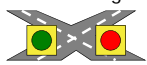
PREDICTIONS:

- $P(r, +, +) = (1/2)(3/4)(3/4)$
- $P(s, +, +) = (1/2)(1/4)(1/4)$
- $P(r|+, +) = 9/10$
- $P(s|+, +) = 1/10$

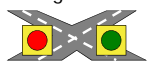
Example: Stoplights

Reality

Lights Working

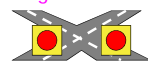


$P(g,r,w) = 3/7$



$P(r,g,w) = 3/7$

Lights Broken



$P(r,r,b) = 1/7$

NB Model

Working?

NS

EW

NB FACTORS:

- $P(w) = 6/7$
- $P(r|w) = 1/2$
- $P(g|w) = 1/2$
- $P(b) = 1/7$
- $P(r|b) = 1$
- $P(g|b) = 0$

Example: Stoplights

- What does the model say when both lights are red?
 - $P(b,r,r) = (1/7)(1)(1) = 1/7 = 4/28$
 - $P(w,r,r) = (6/7)(1/2)(1/2) = 6/28 = 6/28$
 - $P(w|r,r) = 6/10!$
- We'll guess that (r,r) indicates lights are working!
- Imagine if $P(b)$ were boosted higher, to $1/2$:
 - $P(b,r,r) = (1/2)(1)(1) = 1/2 = 4/8$
 - $P(w,r,r) = (1/2)(1/2)(1/2) = 1/8 = 1/8$
 - $P(w|r,r) = 1/5!$
- Changing the parameters bought accuracy at the expense of data likelihood